

USAID/RAMP projects utilize a market driven approach to intervene at multiple points along the agricultural value chain. The over 40 projects currently underway are designed to:

- introduce improved technology and extension services to help producers become more efficient and provide alternative livelihoods
- improve critical infrastructure like farm-to-market roads, irrigation systems, and market centers
- increase the flow of capital through provision of rural financial services
- identify market opportunities and build market systems to take advantage of them.

As one of the 5 target regions of Afghanistan selected for RAMP interventions, **there are 13 USAID/RAMP projects that affect Nangarhar**. For more information about RAMP projects, please visit our website at www.ramp-af.com

Improving Agricultural Production and Providing Alternative Livelihoods

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Potato Improvement (CIP). ICARDA/CIP provides training and market development for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for potato production in Afghanistan.

Number of potato demonstration plots in Nangarhar: 7
Districts involved: Khogiani (2), Behsoud, Surkroud, Kama, Khewa, and Batikot.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises.

ICARDA is providing training, technical assistance on equipment and machinery, storage, and instruction on business plans, marketing and accounting for the development of village-based seed enterprises.

Number of VBSEs in Nangarhar: 4
Districts involved: Behsoud, Surkroud, Kama and Khewa

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

ICARDA is demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. Focus is on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops adapted to local conditions, improved management, and improved irrigation practices.

Pointing out superior wheat yields from improved seed

Number of On-farm demo plots in Nangarhar: 42

- 18 wheat
- 7 potato
- 6 tomato
- 5 okra
- 6 onion

Districts involved: Khogiani, Behsoud, Surkroud, Kama, Khewa and Batikot.



Potato farmer in Behsoud



ICARDA agricultural specialist pointing out superior wheat yields from improved seed

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement

Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA) is creating a national network of private veterinary field units in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. They are training para-veterinarians and creating a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

Number of VFUs in Nangarhar: 22

Districts involved: Sultanpur, Behsoud, Kohgiani, Wazir, Sherzad, Khisarak, Rodat, Dehbala, Koot, Batikot, Chaprahar, Pachirwagam, Monmandara, Ghanikhil, Achin, Nazian, Khewa, Dara-e-Noor, Kama, Goshta, Lalpura and Jalalabad.



Providing livestock health services in Batikot

Agro-Input Dealer Training and Development International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC) IFDC is training 2,000 agro-input dealers, developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agro-inputs and establishing five private sector associations of agro-input dealers.

Number of trainings in Nangarhar: 2 in Jalalabad.

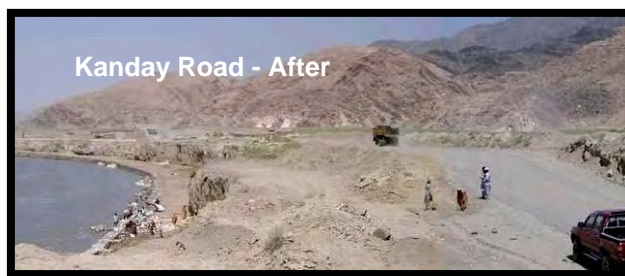
Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development.

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) GIA is constructing a series of demonstration sites for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain; conducting training and developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units, and small farm demonstration units.

Number of grain storage units in Nangarhar: 6

Districts involved: Surkhroud, Behsoud, Khogiana, Shewa, Kama, and Batikot.

Rehabilitating the Agricultural Infrastructure for Enhanced Production, Market Access and Providing Jobs for Afghan Workers



Kanday Road Rehabilitation

Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales (MADERA) MADERA has completed the rehabilitation of a 300 meter section of road between Jalalabad and Assadabad, effectively protecting traffic and trade between Kunar, Nooristan and Nangarhar with market centers in Pakistan. A protection wall was constructed along with a gabion dike to reduce erosion and damage during periods of flooding.

Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar

The Kunar River is the water source for one of the most productive agricultural areas of Nangarhar. The river meanders across a wide area, is highly braided and with the multiple channels, effective irrigation water diversions are difficult to maintain throughout the growing season. RAMP commissioned the Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR) to construct intakes on two sides of the river for the Shegee and Koti-Taran canal systems. These works were completed April 2005.

Important aspects of the Shegee work include:

- the construction of the 110 meter main canal intake and a downstream wasteway,
- rehabilitation of a 100 meter retaining wall,
- and the building of 19 culverts along the Shegee main canal.

For the Kot-Taran/Kachara canals:

- construction of the 325 meter long wall of the intake,
- and the rehabilitation of the 325 meter section of the Kachara intake.

Labor days for Afghan workers: 14,897

Total wages paid: US\$70,000

Number of hectares affected: 18,600



Farmer whose cultivable land area doubled due to Khewa project



The Shegee intake and protection wall project, completed

Improving Irrigation Systems & Water Management

More than a decade ago flood waters of the large dry washes that flow from the nearby White Mountains destroyed the tail of the Nangarhar Valley Canal System (NVDA) in the Shinwar District, just 15km from the Pakistan border. This halted the supply of canal water to 6,000 hectares of land. The flood waters inundated villages and disrupted the water supply for an additional 2,000 hectares of irrigated lands. Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA) has rebuilt a major siphon on the main canal and three branch canals. Upstream, a 3 meter high masonry wall and embankment of 500 meters was built at the mouth of the dry wash to divert flood waters to a large channel that bypasses the irrigated areas. The wary Shinwari villagers have cooperated with RSSA to build a 76 meter long masonry weir to divide and divert flood waters away from their village and safely past the irrigation system.

Total wages paid to Afghan workers: US\$203,000

Hectares of land affected: 6,000



The NVDA siphon while under construction



Village beneficiaries gathered at the project site

Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland in Nangarhar Province - International Foundation of Hope (IFHOPE) IFHope is rehabilitating 116 km of blocked drainage ditches in Nangarhar's two major irrigation systems.

Road Rehabilitation Program

Afghanaid and Relief, International (RI) initiated the rehabilitation of farm to market roads by completing 15km of test roads in the Kama Ghosta and Kot districts. The remainder of the 100km program is being completed by HADF and RSSA. This includes adequate drainage, retaining walls, crossing and related structures.

Providing Rural Financial Services

The provision of rural financial services and credit is an essential component of an integrated approach to building the agricultural economy of Afghanistan. The goals of USAID/RAMP financial services are to manage risk, encourage sustainable growth and stimulate lending.

Micro-lending:

The \$5 million contribution to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility (MISFA) created by the World Bank) as direct loan capital to 12 Micro-Finance Institutions. 99% repayment rate. 28,118 loans disbursed for micro-agribusinesses to date. 83% of clients were women. 11 months average loan term. Loan Range of \$100 - \$6,000. Average loan size: \$172.

Small and Medium Enterprise Lending: RAMP provided \$2 million for funding of revolving credit facility (total assets of \$10 million) to be established by Afghanistan International Bank (AIB). Loan amounts are to range from \$50,000 - \$500,000. 7 loans disbursed to agribusinesses • \$2,000,000 disbursed • Average loan size \$300,000 • Average loan term 18 months.